6. Welfare of Fishermen:

(i) Group Accident Insurance

(ii) Model Fishermen Villages

(iii) Saving-cum-Relief.

7. Assistance for Strengthening of Inland Fish Marketing.

8. Enforcement of Marine Fishing Regulation Act and Introduction of Artificial Reefs and Sea Farming Project.

9. World Bank Assisted Shrimp and Fish Culture Project.

(c) No new schemes are under consideration at present for the development of fisheries in Orissa.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Groundnut production in Orissa

457. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a vast scope for the expansion of ground-nut production in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to increase the areas under groundnut production and also to create adequate marketing facilities for the sale of groundnuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Orissa has got a good potential for increasing the area under groundnut specially during the summer season. To increase the production of oilseeds including groundnut a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in operation which provides assistance for production and distribution of seeds distribution of sprinklers improved farm implements, rhyzobium culture, gypsum pyrites. In aldtion technology is demonstrated to the farmers through frontline and general demonstrations organised on their holdings.

Reduced production of long staple cotton in Punjab and Haryana

458. SHRI S. S. SURIEWALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware of reduced production of long staple cotton in Punjab and Haryana regions, during the current season on account of Ball Worm and other diceases caused by low temperature;

(b) if so, what is the estimate of total cotton production in the current year in comparison to the previous two years;

(c) whether Government have received complaints from the farmers of these States regarding lack of effectiveness of various pesticides which failed to destroy the plant diseases;

(d) if so, what are the preventive measures taken by Government;

(e) whether Government propose to enforce the Crop Insurance Scheme to save the farmers miseries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Sir, there are no reports of reduced production of long staple cotton in Punjab and Haryana during the current year on account of Ball Worm and other diseases. The production of cotton in Punjab and